

Boston Redevelopment Authority

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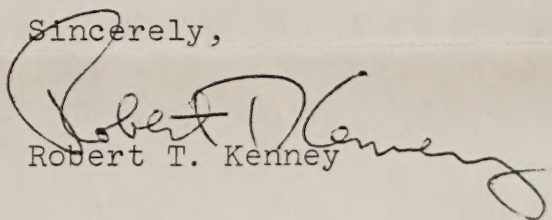
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I am pleased to send you a copy of the Jamaica Plain poster, which the Boston Redevelopment Authority has prepared to illustrate the vitality and diversity of this neighborhood.

We believe that Boston's strength lies in its people and its neighborhoods. We hope that people who live in Jamaica Plain, people who might want to live there, and people who do business there will all become more familiar with this distinctive community.

Sincerely,


Robert T. Kenney

Enclosure

JAMAICA PLAIN



Streets and public transportation provide good connections between Jamaica Plain and the rest of Boston. The MBTA's Green (Arborway) and Orange Lines, extensive bus routes and a mini-bus all serve the community. Centre Street, Washington Street, the Jamaica Way and the Arborway give automobile access that is convenient and often scenic.

The Southwest Corridor (the area cleared for the Interstate 95 expressway) will be used in the future for commuter rail service, Amtrak, and the relocation of the Orange Line from Washington Street. This marks the first time in this country that, in response to community opposition, a decision was made to halt construction of a major expressway and use the land and money for public transportation and community development.

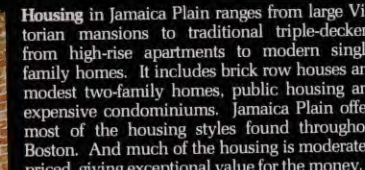


Parks and open space are abundant in Jamaica Plain. Olmsted Park, the Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Pond and Franklin Park—all part of Boston's "emerald necklace" of green space—virtually encircle the neighborhood. Smaller parks, playgrounds and tot lots scattered throughout the community provide additional recreational space close to home. In fact, Jamaica Plain enjoys more green space than any other section of Boston.



Shopping in Jamaica Plain is focused on bustling Centre Street. Here pharmacies and hardware stores, clothing and variety stores, delicatessens, banks and offices, all cater to the needs of the community. There's even a candy store where the candymaker is a concert violinist!

Hyde Square, where many Hispanic residents live, has become a thriving Spanish business area. Its specialty shops serve not only neighborhood residents, but much of the Hispanic community of Greater Boston as well. The smaller shopping areas of Egleston Square and Forest Hills provide convenience goods for their immediate neighborhoods.



Jamaica Plain today is a community of vitality and diversity—in its housing, its shopping, its recreational opportunities, and particularly its people. It enjoys a rare combination of urban, suburban and even rural qualities that few communities can offer, and its distinctive attributes make it one of Boston's most attractive neighborhoods.

Vitality and diversity have been typical of Jamaica Plain since its beginnings. Settled as part of the Town of Roxbury in 1630, the area, with its fertile farmland, supplied Boston's markets with produce for many years. By the 18th century, Jamaica Plain had become a fashionable summer resort, and by the end of the 19th century it had developed

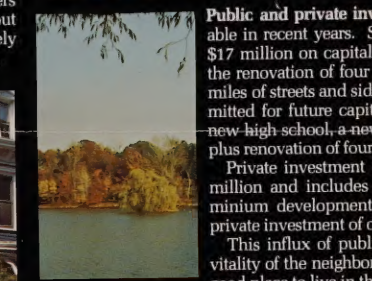
into a thriving middle-class suburb of Boston, connected to the downtown by streetcars and railroad service.

In spite of its growth as a residential area, Jamaica Plain has retained much of the green space for which it was, and still is, famous. This is mainly due to the creation of Boston's "emerald necklace" park system, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted in the late 1800's to provide the city with a continuous chain of parklands. (The community boasts of an additional, unique kind of green space as well: Boston's only working farm.)

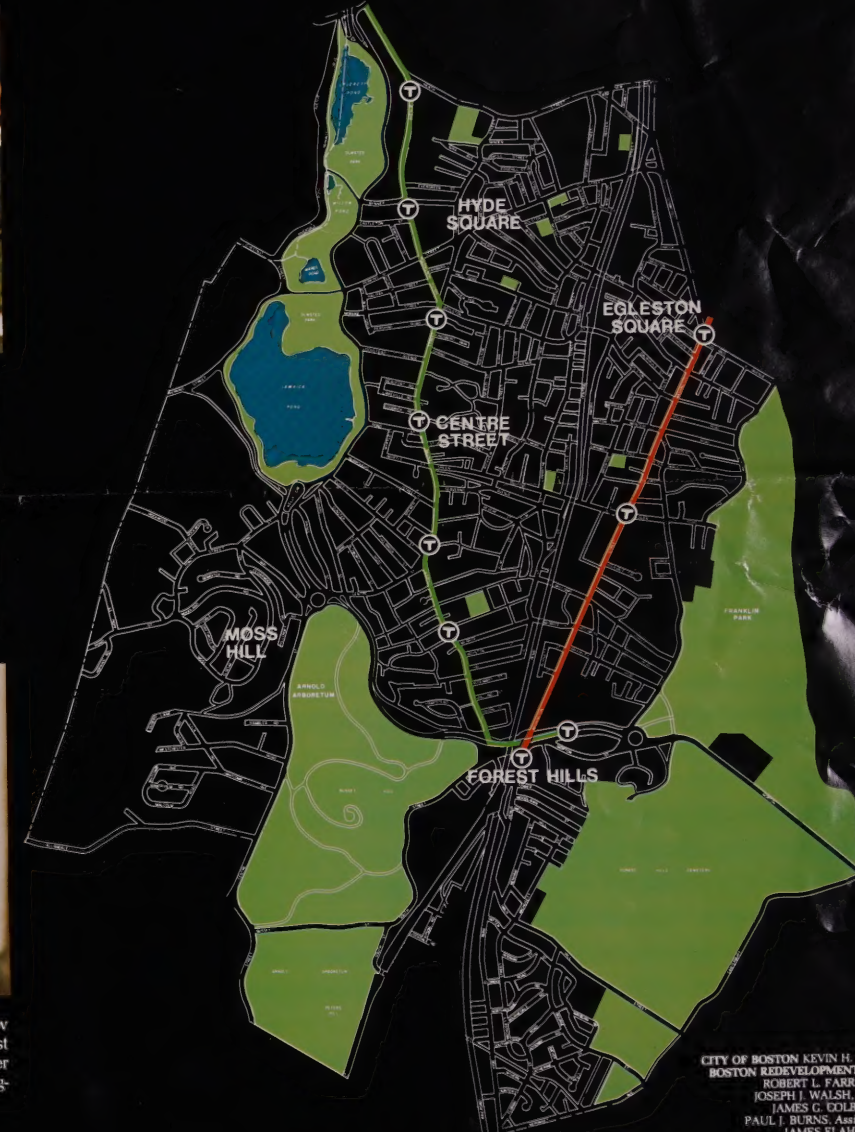
Like the rest of Boston's neighborhoods, Jamaica Plain deserves to

be better known. Therefore, the Boston Redevelopment Authority has designed this poster to provide a sampling of the many aspects of the community. We hope the poster will prompt people to visit Jamaica Plain and to enjoy the vitality and character of the neighborhood.

Robert T. Kenney, Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority



The people of Jamaica Plain, once predominantly Yankee and then Irish, are now of many races and nationalities. The neighborhood is also one of the most economically diverse in Boston, housing working class, middle class, and upper income families. White, Black and Hispanic, old, young and in-between, long-time residents and new arrivals—they're all at home in Jamaica Plain.



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